54. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide complementary to [the polynucleotide of claim 53] a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acids +1 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C1

55. (Once amended) [The] An isolated polynucleotide [of claim 53] comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acids +1 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2 linked to [further comprising] a heterologous polynucleotide.

56. (Once amended) A vector comprising [the polynucleotide of claim 53] an isolated polynucleotide encoding amino acids +1 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

57. (Once amended) A host cell comprising [the polynucleotide of claim 53] an isolated polynucleotide encoding amino acids +1 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2 operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence.

C2

59. (Once amended) A composition comprising [the] an isolated polynucleotide [of claim 53] encoding amino acids +1 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

60. (Once amended) [The] An isolated polynucleotide [of claim 53,] comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acids –20 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C3

62. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide complementary to [the] a polynucleotide [of claim 60] comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acids -20 to +163 of SEQ ID NO:2.

C4

95. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide complementary to [the polynucleotide of claim 93] a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least 30 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

C5

102. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide complementary to [the polynucleotide of claim 101] a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA

contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein said fragment has endothelial cell proliferative activity.

103. (Once amended) [The] An isolated polynucleotide [of claim 101] comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein said fragment has endothelial cell proliferative activity, and wherein said isolated polynucleotide is linked to [further comprising] a heterologous polynucleotide.

104. (Once amended) A vector comprising [the polynucleotide of claim 101] an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein said fragment has endothelial cell proliferative activity.

105. (Once amended) A host cell comprising [the polynucleotide of claim 101] an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein said polypeptide fragment has endothelial cell proliferative activity, and wherein said isolated polynucleotide is operably associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence.

107. (Once amended) A composition comprising [the] an isolated polynucleotide [of claim 101] encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein said polypeptide fragment has endothelial cell proliferative activity.

108. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid [sequence] selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid [sequence] encoding amino acids +30 to +44 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a nucleic acid [sequence] encoding amino acids +55 to +69 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) a nucleic acid [sequence] encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874, wherein the polypeptide fragment binds an antibody having specificity for the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;

(d) a nucleic acid [sequence] that hybridizes to a polynucleotide consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, the complement thereof, or the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 75874 ~~under~~ hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in a wash buffer consisting of 0.2XSSC and 0.1% SDS at 60OC;

(e) a nucleic acid [sequence] comprising 30 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; and

(f) a nucleic acid [sequence] comprising 50 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof.

109. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (a).

110. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (b).

111. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (c).

112. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (d).

113. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (e).

114. (Once amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 108, wherein said nucleic acid [sequence] is (f).--

Remarks

Claims 54-67, 75-100 and 102-114 are pending in this application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections in view of the following remarks.